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The Alcohol Forum, funded by Strabane PCSP, recently delivered their ‘Keep It Safe’ programme to 17 primary and secondary schools totalling over 950 pupils.

The ‘Keep It Safe’ programme was delivered in three strands; ‘Streetwise4Life’ which explored the theme of alcohol and alcohol harm, ‘It’s Your Choice’ raising awareness of drugs, drug types and the dangers they pose and ‘A Dicey Pastime’ which engaged the young people on the theme of gambling.

Speaking about the initiative Strabane PCSP Chair Cllr. Thomas Kerrigan said: “It is encouraging that so many schools and pupils participated in this programme. Having attended a ‘Keep It Safe’ session I noted how interesting and worthwhile this programme was for the pupils taking part.

As a society we need to acknowledge and address the harmful effects that alcohol, drugs and gambling can have – by engaging with the pupils now they will learn how to make healthy choices in the future, thus working towards shaping the next generation.”

Justice Minister David Ford has opened an anti-social behaviour awareness seminar in Cookstown. The seminar has been held in response to the findings from the consultation on the Executive’s Community Safety Strategy, which highlighted that consultees wanted the statutory response to anti-social behaviour to deliver for the community.

Those in attendance included the PSNI, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, local councils, PCSPs, NI Federation of Housing Association (NIFHA), the Department for Social Development and the Department of Justice.

Speaking about the seminar David Ford said: “Tackling anti-social behaviour is a priority for the Executive to be addressed through my Department’s Community Safety Strategy. Victims of anti-social behaviour often face serious disruption to their quality of life, in particular some of the most vulnerable groups in our society.”

In a follow up to the seminars, the Department has launched a PCSP leaflet for the public to provide some further information on anti-social behaviour and who to contact for help.

for more information
‘Safe Home’ project thriving in Limavady

A project which aims to increase a sense of security, safety and wellness of isolated, vulnerable and older people in Limavady is continuing to deliver huge benefits.

A remarkable 812 home visits have been completed since the project was launched in August, 2011.

Safe Home is a multi-agency partnership project, whereby police refer victims of crime to Be Safe Be Well, who deliver home visits thanks to funding from Limavady PCSP, PSNI and the Big Lottery fund.

Referrals are also being passed on to the facilitators by PSNI Neighbourhood Policing, social workers, family members and from older peoples groups. Some clients also self-refer.

Limavady PSCP Chair Alan Robinson said the project is continuing to offer a valuable service:

“Safe Home’ aims to educate vulnerable older people on how to promote their security and safety at home. The visit incorporates a home safety/security questionnaire and the opportunity for the beneficiary household to have home safety/security equipment installed according to the needs identified.”

For more information on the Safe Home project, contact Ageing Well Roe Valley on Tel: 028 7133 8125

Holylands Environmental Clean up

At the suggestion of Community representatives on the South Belfast DPCSP, Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI) Community Service teamed up with Belfast City Council, the Department of Regional Development and the University of Ulster to clean up an area between Agincourt Avenue and the Lagan in the New Year.

The work has now been completed which included cutting hedges around trees to get access to rubbish, levelling out the path at the steps, scraping clean and painting the wall to facilitate student art.

PBNI Community Service are making plans to improve other areas nearby.

FRONT COVER CAPTION

Pictured at the clean-up are Christine Hunter, PBNI Area Manager and Cllr Deirdre Hargey, South Belfast DPCSP Member.
Basketball Programme in Ballymena

Minister Nelson McCausland recently visited Ballymena Borough to formally launch a Basketball Schools Programme funded jointly by Ballymena PCSP and the Department for Social Development.

£60,000 over two years has been awarded towards a Basketball Programme for over 600 school children in Ballymena. The programme aims to promote a sense of citizenship among young people from a variety of different backgrounds.

Primary and Secondary schools will be “twinned” with each other and engage in an 18 month structured programme involving basketball coaching, playing basketball and workshops designed to address community relations and personal well-being.

In addition it is proposed to run a two week Summer Intervention Programme in 2014 for 6-12 year olds which will involve 2 weeks of Multi-Sport coaching.

The programme will be run in a partnership between Ballymena Borough Council and the PCSP.

Speaking about the initiative Ballymena PCSP Chair, Cllr. James Currie said:

“One of the best ways of reducing Anti-social behaviour is to get young people off the street and engaged in positive diversionary activity.

Through engaging young people in schools and encouraging them to pursue basketball on a Saturday, this programme will not only contribute to that aim but will also help raise awareness of the links between anti-social behaviour and drug and alcohol abuse.”

Minister McCausland and Audrey Wales, Mayor of Ballymena and PCSP Member pictured with school pupils at the launch of the programme.
Neighbourhood Watch Campaign Launched in Belfast

Belfast residents are being encouraged to set up or join Neighbourhood Watch Schemes to help make communities safer across the city.

Speaking about the ‘Look out for your neighbours’ initiative, recently launched by Belfast PCSP, Cllr. John Hussey, PCSP Chair said: “The idea that neighbourhood watch is the reserve of ‘curtain-twitchers’ and nosey neighbours is an old-fashioned notion; everyone can benefit from being in a community where residents are alert and look out for each other.

There are more than 100 Neighbourhood Watch Schemes in Belfast already, and we believe many more communities could benefit from introducing something similar in their area. Not only does it foster a sense of community spirit, it helps people feel safer and provides reassurance, particularly for elderly and vulnerable residents.”

A media campaign for billboards, bus shelters, print media, radio and online, as well as in leisure and community centres shows that it takes ‘all-sorts’ to make a successful neighbourhood watch scheme.

Commenting on the campaign PSNI Supt. Mark McEwan said: “Local neighbourhood policing teams are very keen to work with residents and to develop neighbourhood watch schemes in areas where they don’t currently exist. The scheme has been designed in a way that seeks to make it as easy as possible for people to get involved and play an active role in helping to keep their areas safe.

The scheme is open to everyone regardless of geography, age, gender, race or religion, and if people are unsure about how they can go about setting up a group in their area, we’re happy to help get the ball rolling.”

To find out more

www.belfastcity.gov.uk/neighbourhoodwatch

Belfast residents are being encouraged to set up or join Neighbourhood Watch Schemes to help make communities safer across the city.

Look out for your neighbours!

We joined Neighbourhood Watch and made our community safer

Call 9027 0469 to join or set up your local scheme.

www.belfastcity.gov.uk/neighbourhoodwatch

Pictured at the launch of the campaign are (l-r) Supt. Mark McEwan, Grace Taylor-Holmes PSNI NHW Co-Ordinator, Peter Quigley NHW Co-ordinator, Karen McDermott Regional manager Crimestoppers and Valerie Allen Member Belfast PCSP

FRONT COVER CAPTION
**Unique intergenerational project in Craigavon**

An innovative intergenerational project which aims to make local communities safer was recently celebrated in Craigavon.

Organised by Craigavon PCSP, the project brought together Year 8 pupils from St Paul’s Junior High School and residents from Oakleigh Fold, Lurgan to take part in unique workshops tackling relevant subjects such as anti-social behavior and fear of crime.

The workshops, delivered by a wide range of external organisations including the local PSNI, Linking Generations NI, Craigavon Borough Council’s Sports Development Unit & Arts Development Team, set out to help build trust, confidence and respect between older and younger generations and look at how young and older people view each other.

The celebration event showcased the work undertaken at the workshops between the two generations and highlighted topics which were covered including; Sports Development Bowling, Arts Development using clay and plaster to make artwork and Linking Generations perception challenge.

**New PCSP website goes live**

The New PCSP website is now live. To view [click here](#).

**PBNI Corporate Plan Launched**

Pictured at the launch of the Probation Board's Corporate Plan 2014-17 are: (l-r) Annie Campbell Director of Women’s Aid, Vilma Patterson Chair of PBNI, Justice Minister David Ford, Cheryl Lamont (Acting) Director PBNI and ACC Mark Hamilton.

To view the Report [click here](#).
Helping the community stay safe in Armagh

To address all strands of hate crime, Lisburn PCSP alongside the PSNI recently held six focus groups to establish the extent of this type of crime in the area, and how to raise awareness and increase reporting.

A wide range of organisations and individuals participated with PCSP members and neighbourhood officers and issues discussed included the role and responsibilities of Hate and Signal Crime Officers; an overview of hate crime incidents; legislation; PSNI procedures and recorded crime and outcomes.

Overall, the focus groups were successful with a high quality debate in each. There were common themes arising and a number of key recommendations have been agreed between Lisburn PCSP and PSNI to promote awareness of hate crime and encourage reporting.

As part of this hate crime action plan Lisburn PCSP also recently hosted a performance of the Laramie Project to an audience of 90 people. The Project, an impactful play emphasising the horror of homophobic hate crime, is based on events following the 1998 murder of a young gay man called Matthew Shepard in Laramie, Wyoming.

A panel discussion took place with the audience following the performance with representation from Lisburn PCSP, PSNI, Rainbow Project NI and Leonard Cheshire Disability.

Armagh PCSP recently launched a comprehensive booklet of advice aimed at helping people stay safe.

Full of useful information, covering a wide range of community safety topics, the ‘Helping our Communities Stay Safe’ booklet launch also gave older people in attendance an opportunity to participate in a ‘Living Life to the Full’ Workshop organised by the PCSP, Community & Voluntary Services and the Southern Health and Social Care Trust.

Cllr. Gerald Mallon, Armagh PCSP said: “The PCSP is delighted to be able to provide local people with this very useful booklet covering a wide range of information, advice and guidance all in one place. Especially useful is the list of local telephone numbers and information on how to contact the police and other local service providers. This is just one of the practical ways that the PCSP can support local people and make sure that they take steps to keep themselves safe and avoid becoming a victim of crime.”

To get a copy of the booklet you can phone 028 3752 9646 or email pcsp@armagh.gov.uk

FRONT COVER CAPTION
Patricia Gibson, PCSP Manager and Stephanie Rock, Community Safety Coordinator for Older People, Armagh PCSP launch Armagh PCSP’s new community safety booklet with older people who attended the ‘Living Life to the Full’ workshop.
District Commander Update

The PSNI has recently made some changes to the District Commander posts as follows:

**District A**
C/Supt Nigel Grimshaw is the commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises North and West Belfast.

**District B**
C/Supt Alan McCrum remains the commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises East and South Belfast.

**District C**
C/Supt Peter Farrar is the commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises Ards, Castlereagh, North Down and Down.

**District D**
C/Supt Henry Irvine remains the Commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises Lisburn, Antrim, Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey.

**District E**
C/Supt Pauline Shields is the commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises Armagh, Craigavon, Banbridge and Newry and Mourne.

**District F**
C/Supt Kevin Dunwoody is the commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises Cookstown, Dungannon and South Tyrone, Fermanagh and Omagh.

**District G**
C/Supt Stephen Cargin remains the Commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises Foyle, Limavady, Strabane and Magherafelt.

**District H**
C/Supt Raymond Murray is the commander in charge of the District Command Unit which comprises Coleraine, Ballymoney, Moyle, Ballymena and Larne.
PSNI - #We’veListened

The PSNI has made some changes to its social media platforms in response to feedback from the community and with the intent of further improving engagement at a personal and local level.

Head of Corporate Communications Liz Young explains: “We have recently merged a number of our Facebook pages in Belfast and opened new Twitter accounts which will enable policing teams to deliver a better service to their areas. This was in response to comments and feedback from users within those communities who wanted a more joined up and personal service.

We are always happy to receive comments about how we are managing our social media platforms and make changes to suit our followers. This is what social media is all about! It lets us hear directly from the community on the issues that affect them allowing us to respond and make changes based on their needs.

“We currently have 33 Facebook pages and 33 Twitter accounts, with a combined following of over 260,000 people, and our numbers continue to grow. We hope that the changes in Belfast go well and would encourage those not already engaging with their local policing teams to get online!”

East Belfast - replaces PSNI Victoria and PSNI Pottinger

South Belfast - replaces PSNI Laganbank and PSNI Balmoral.

North Belfast - replaces PSNI York Road and PSNI Tennent Street.

West Belfast remains the same.

Twitter accounts are also now available for East, North, South and West Belfast.

What’s happening in your PCSP?

PCSPs hold a variety of meetings and events each month. For details on what is coming up in your local PCSP.

PCSPs are funded and supported by the Policing Board and Department of Justice.

PCSPs work with a number of designated partners.

Find out more about PCSPs:

Facebook: /pcsps
Twitter: @pcsp_s
Website: www.pcsps.org